West Basins Planning Area
West Basins Planning Area

• Only limitation on groundwater use is that it must be put to beneficial use and withdrawn from a legally constructed and registered well

• In Arizona, groundwater in an aquifer is considered a public resource. The Arizona Supreme Court held “there is no right of ownership of groundwater in Arizona prior to its capture and withdrawal from the common supply”
West Basins Planning Area

• Not within one of the state’s Active Management Areas (AMA)
• Includes the Harquahala Valley Groundwater basin which is an Irrigation Non-expansion Area (INA)
• ADWR regulatory authority limited outside of an AMA or INA
• AMAs and INAs are two management tools that are currently available
• Could the existing tools be part of the consensus based solution set?
Questions?

Gerry Walker,  
Deputy Assistant Director

Phone: 602.771.8511  
glwalker@azwater.gov

www.azwater.gov